

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/774,502

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following amended title:

A BRANCHING UNIT ADAPTED TO BE INTEGRATED INTO RECONFIGURE
CONNECTION OF TERRESTRIAL TERMINALS IN A SUBMARINE
TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM, A SUBMARINE TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM
INTEGRATING THE BRANCHING UNIT, AND A METHOD OF RECONFIGURING A
SUBMARINE TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Page 9, please replace the fourth paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

The branching unit 10 further comprises a first electronic control card [[10]] 20 supplied with power by the trunk current i_1 and which includes:

- first means 21 for receiving and processing optical reconfiguration signals S_{rB} ,
- preferably, first memory means 22 for storing optical configuration signals,
- first voltage measuring means 23 for measuring a voltage U_1 indicating the potential at any point of the trunk segment P_{12} , for example at the trunk current input,
- preferably, first identification means 24a for identifying the existence and the sign of the trunk current and first identification means 24b for identifying the existence and the sign of the branch current,
- first reconfiguration validation means 25 coupled to the means 21 to 24 and adapted to authorize or prohibit reconfiguration, and
- first reconfiguration means 26 coupled to the reconfiguration validation means 25 and adapted to command the switching of the contacts 7, 7', 7'' after validation.